

**REQUEST
FOR
CONTINUED EXAMINATION (RCE)
TRANSMITTAL**

Subsection (b) of 35 U.S.C. § 132, effective on May 29, 2000, provides for continued examination of a utility or plant application filed on or after June 8, 1995.
See The American Inventors Protection Act of 1999 (AIPA)

OCT 04 2006
U.S. PATENT & TRADEMARK OFFICE

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|------------------------|--------------------|
| Application Number | 09/836,886 |
| Filing Date | April 17, 2001 |
| Confirmation Number | 5184 |
| First Named Inventor | Phillip A. Cousins |
| Group Art Unit | 2145 |
| Examiner Name | P. L. Winder |
| Attorney Docket Number | 3031.1000-000 |

This is a Request for Continued Examination (RCE) under 37 C.F.R. § 1.114 of the above-identified application.

Request for Continued Examination (RCE) practice under 37 CFR 1.114 does not apply to any utility or plant application filed prior to June 8, 1995, or to any design application. See instruction Sheet for RCEs (not to be submitted to the USPTO) on page 2.

1. Submission required under 37 C.F.R. § 1.114

Note: If the RCE is proper, any previously filed unentered amendments and amendments enclosed with the RCE will be entered in the order in which they were filed unless applicant instructs otherwise. If applicant does not wish to have any previously filed unentered amendment(s) entered, applicant must request non-entry of such amendment(s).

a. Previously submitted

- i. Consider the amendment(s)/reply under 37 C.F.R. § 1.116 previously filed on [].
(Any unentered amendment(s) referred to above will be entered).
- ii. Consider the arguments in the Appeal Brief or Reply Brief previously filed on [].
- iii. Other -- [].

b. Please do not enter the amendment(s)/reply under 37 C.F.R. § 1.116 previously filed on [].

c. Enclosed

- i. Amendment/Reply 10/05/2006 CNEGA1 00000020 09836886
- ii. Affidavit(s)/Declaration(s) 01 FC:2801 395.00 OP
- iii. Information Disclosure Statement (IDS) 02 FC:2252 225.00 OP
- iv. Petition for Extension of Time - 2 months -included in transmittal
- v. Other -- [].

2. Miscellaneous

a. Suspension of action on the above-identified application is requested under 37 C.F.R. § 1.103(c) for a period of [] months. (Period of suspension shall not exceed 3 months; Fee under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(i) required)

b. Other -- [].

3. Fees The RCE fee under 37 CFR §1.17(e) is required by 37 CFR §1.114 when the RCE is filed.

a. A check is enclosed for the fees indicated in b. in the total amount of \$620

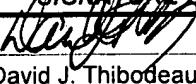
OR

Authorization is granted to charge the fees indicated in b. in the total amount of \$[] to Deposit Account No. 08-0380. A copy of this document is enclosed for accounting purposes

- b. i. RCE fee required under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(e)
- ii. Extension of time fee (37 C.F.R. §§ 1.136 and 1.17)
- iii. Amendment Fee
- iv. Other -- [].

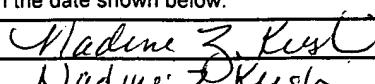
c. Authorization is hereby granted to charge any deficiency in fees or credit any overpayments to Deposit Account No. 08-0380. A copy of this document is enclosed for accounting purposes.

SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT, ATTORNEY OR AGENT REQUIRED

| | | | |
|-------------------|---|-----------------------------------|---------|
| Signature |  | Registration No. (Attorney/Agent) | 31,671 |
| Name (Print/Type) | David J. Thibodeau, Jr. | Date | 10/2/06 |

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING OR TRANSMISSION

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Mail Stop RCE, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, or facsimile transmitted to the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office on the date shown below:

| | |
|-------------------|---|
| Signature |  |
| Name (Print/Type) | Nadine Z. Rusk |